

**Remarks**

In response to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2004, Applicants elect Claim Set I, which includes claims 1-9 and 12-14 with traverse, as set forth below. Claims 10-11 and 15-17 have been withdrawn.

**Traverse of Election/Restriction Requirement**

Applicants are unable to understand the reasons given for the restriction requirement at page 2 of the Office Action, which states, "invention I has separate utility such as a node generator without requiring if the next level of node is not assigned the logical level number of invention II." As Applicants have understood the restriction requirement, the Office Action is requesting Applicants to elect between methods and apparatuses to generate a radix tree, and methods to search a radix tree generated by the same inventive concept. Applicant respectfully submits that the same inventive concept is involved in assigning a logical level to a symbol and storing an entry in a node based at least in part on the logical level number, as in claim group I, and searching a node further down a radix tree when the node searched does not have a logical level number that corresponds to the length of a key, as in claim group II.

Both groups of claims involve the inventive concept of logical levels for nodes and keys. Thus, the searching as set forth in claim group II and the node generation of claim group I are based upon the same inventive concept. Therefore, Applicants respectfully traverse the election/restriction requirement.

Application No. 10/043,764  
Amendment dated April 16, 2004  
Response to Office Action of March 16, 2004

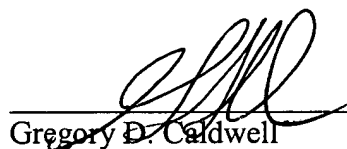
Atty. Docket No. 42P12328  
Examiner: Yicun Wu  
TC/A.U. 2175

## Conclusion

In view of the election to the restriction requirement made, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-9 and 12-14 are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,  
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Date: 4/16/04

  
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